In his short story, “The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World,” Marquez uses magical realism to stretch the reader’s imagination, encouraging the questioning of truth and possibilities. As the villagers gazed upon the massive body of the drowned man, they realized that “there was no room for him in their imagination.” This character defied the rules of the normal world by being larger than life. Stuck in their normal, sheltered routine, the villagers were not even able to imagine a larger and more impressive reality than the one in which they already lived. As they carried this giant to his funeral, “men and women became aware for the first time of the desolation of their streets, the dryness of their courtyards, the narrowness of their dreams as they faced the splendor and beauty of their drowned man.” The more that the drowned man stretched their imaginations, the more possibility they saw in their own lives. It was this realization that inspired positive changes in this isolated community. With his story, Marquez urges society to be open to inspiration that may change the status quo. The world needs its dreamers.